

HOME NEWS

—William Wymer, of Upshur, who was sent from this county to the penitentiary for horse stealing, died at Moundsville recently.

—Nearly all of the papers in the State got out a ground-hog issue last week, one of the calamities brought on by the day.

—Dr. J. W. Price bought the Hevner lot, sold at auction last Saturday, for \$40. The lot contains two acres. He will put up some buildings on it soon.

—One of the citizens of this town preserves this sort of a letter: "Dear Sir, I would like to buy your horse, and will give you \$115 for it. P. S. If you will not take \$115, I will give you \$125."

—The skating has been better than good and this town has quite an array of skaters. George Hart, who was raised on the Monongahela River, is considered the best man with skates seen hereabouts.

—The mails were practically stopped for three days. It was four days, including Sunday, that we failed to receive any railroad mail. Reports say that the trains on the C. & O. were stopped by the drifts.

—Several sled teams have been busy hauling sand for the courthouse, the past few days. These teams came in last week with several tons of cement, and there is a good deal more to follow.

—The ice will have an other try at the boom at Ronceverte. The ice now on the river is the clearest and purest formed this winter, and there is little or no snow-ice in its composition. Hence when it goes break it will be most dangerous.

—Direct your steps toward S. W. Holt's when you come to Marlinton and you will find on his counters bargains that will make you open your eyes, hold up your head, and go down in your pocket. This is straight goods.

—An eagle came down and set on a fence, near Mr. Levi Gay's, one of the cold mornings of last week. A pistol shot was fired at it, at which it took flight. Had there been a gun near, it could easily have been killed, as it was very easy to approach it.

—Here is an example worth of any one's consideration: "How many of each animal can a man buy for \$100, and have 100 head of all; buying hogs at 50 cents, sheep at \$3.00, and cows at \$10.00?" All answers must be accompanied by the solution.

—A Rockingham Dutchman was asked what breed of hogs he kept. "I will show you presently," he replied. Upon coming to a well filled corral, his eye twinkled, and his ample features lightened up, and pointing to it said, "That, my friend, is my breed of hocks!"

—The County Court has a good opportunity to test the new jail. If Alex. Armstrong does not break out the jail may be considered reasonably safe. It would be better, though, to get Ham Collins to try to break out then we would have it tested thoroughly. If Armstrong gnaws out the jail will hardly be taken off the contractors hands.

—Jim Herold, Esq., who moved from this county a few years back, is now engaged as a lumber jobber for the West Virginia and Pittsburgh Railway Company. It is reported that he has made a lot of money, and that he has just secured a contract to put in 5,000,000 feet, at a rate that makes it the best paying contract let by the company this season.

—The examinations given in Prof. Wysong's department of the Marlinton Academy were passed by a goodly number of the students and some very gratifying marks were made. The teacher thought it proper to announce as distinguished those who made a combined mark of 85 per cent. on each branch. The following have been given distinctions: In Latin, Dennis McNeill; in English Literature, Miss Mollie Smith; in German, Edward Holt; in Primary Arithmetic, Fred McLaughlin and William Holt. The scholarship medal given to that pupil who made the best average was won by Master William Holt.

—When a road drifts full of snow, or a tree falls across it, or a rock rolls into the roadbed, or any thing whatever obstructs the passage of travel, it is the duty of the overseer and surveyor to open up such road for travel, and any one so disposed can make it pretty hot for such overseers as neglect to open up a blocked road. The best plan, we think, is to call out some of the hands and let the time so employed count on their yearly assessment of four days work.

—A graded school for a session of 3 months has been gotten up at this place by Mr. Wysong, and will commence Monday, February 18th. All the free school branches will be taught, and in addition, several higher branches, including Latin, Geometry, History, Literature, etc. By the cooperation of the people this school can be made a success.

—Andy Campbell, the jovial goshawk mail-carrier, does much to make things more lively along the route. He uses what may be termed a bob sleigh, with dog-cart body and shafts, which slides along most admirably on its two-foot runners. To his horse is attached a first class cow-bell, that kalang kalangs about right.

Personal.

Messrs. L. M. McClintic and Andrew Price are absent at Grafton on professional business.

Mr. Uriah Bird made a trip to Beverly during the cold snap, returning with a two-horse spring wagon. He is said to have traversed the road between Ming and Marlinton with his wagon at the time the mails were lying by on account of the drifts.

Messrs. Cox, Moore, and two Mayse brothers, from Rockingham County, Va., are here as carpenters on the court-house.

The Messrs. Holt, who had started for Beverly to take the train for Baltimore, were compelled to return on account of the severity of the storm.

Mr. Charles E. Sutton is giving drawing lessons to various pupils at this place. Those under his instruction are making rapid advancement in the use of colors. He has headquarters at the Marlinton Hotel.

Ed. Rutledge has returned to wait for the drive. He has had constant employment in the lumber camps.

Ed. McLaughlin was down from Dunmore this week.

Mr. Harvey Maupin and wife are off to Green Bank, visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. John Waugh, formerly one of Pocahontas' most respected citizens, paid the county a visit this week. He is now living on the 'Dun Place, near Ronceverte, and is managing the place for its owner.

Something in Wood-carving.

Mr. J. Holmes Moore, of Virginia, who is stopping at Mr. C. A. Yeager's hotel, is engaged in carving many beautiful things on a walking stick, as a present to a friend. It is intended for a member of the order of Odd Fellows, and bears the following emblems: The handle is composed of a hand holding a bundle of sticks, representing strength in union; then follows representations of the ark of the covenant, the all-seeing eye, the ax, the links, the heart and hand, the scythe, the staff, the face of Thomas Wildly, the scales, hands breaking a single stick, the Bible, the word EZEL. All of this is executed in the most artistic style. Then follows in the plainest of raised letters the words of presentation, and the whole of the Lord's Prayer. The stick is composed of apple and maple, and is the size of an ordinary walking-stick.

Locuet News.

R. W. Beard, Esq., made a canvassing tour of the "Peerless Feed Mill" through the upper end of this county last week, with much success.

Mrs. Nannie Beard lost a valuable horse last Friday night, caused by a severe kick.

Mr. Frank Chapman is in this part now cleaning clocks, etc. He expects to do some barn repairing for R. M. Beard.

W. McClintic's hands passed through this place with a drove of cattle, last week. W. is a hustler. X. Y. Z.

Hillsboro.

A COLD TIME.

We have weathered a good many storms, but that of last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for whirling snow, cold cutting winds and general disagreeableness, capped the climax. All day Friday the mercury remained from 4 to 6° below zero, and complaints of frozen ears, fingers and toes were quite numerous. Unsheltered stock suffered terribly, and Mr. Wm. Burns' cows' feet and legs were badly swollen from the effects of the stinging cold.

A strong blast of wind, partly blew E. L. Beard & Co's awning down, driving a piece of the frame work through a window, breaking two large glass panes to atoms.

Nicholas Street looking north from E. L. Holt's store is completely blocked up with snow, and other roads in the neighborhood are in the same condition. The mail from Lewisburg failed to reach here on Friday and Saturday. The carrier reports that the roads were so filled up with snow that the Ronceverte and Lewisburg mails could not get through at any time. The storm has been one of unusual severity, checking business, and filling every one with apprehension as to the results in other parts of the country.

CORPORATION NEWS.

On Monday February 4th, the newly elected council met in regular session. Mayor Eskridge made some suggestions, which were well received. A resolution was passed requesting the mayor, sergeant and street commissioner to re-district the town. J. K. Bright, E. H. Moore and J. H. Clark were appointed to revise the Corporation ordinances. G. W. Callison, G. L. Clark and E. L. Holt were appointed for the auditing committee. F. L. Beard was appointed street commissioner, and J. D. Payne sergeant.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Among the improvements looked for in Hillsboro next spring or summer will be a new store building by Payne Bros. and one by E. H. Moore & Co. A postoffice building by C. W. Eskridge, and a new plank walk from the corner of the H. M. & F. Academy to G. W. Callison's.

A FARM SOLD.

Sam'l Wamsley has sold his farm (56 acres) lying three quarters of a mile east of town, to Oliver Auldridge, for \$300.

OTHER ITEMS.

We have a great deal of sickness in this neighborhood at present. Mr. S. H. Clark, who was in a very critical condition last week from impacted faces of the bowels, is now considered out of danger.

Our new Street Commissioner was out on last Monday, the 11th, with a force of hands tunneling through the snow drifts on Nicholas Street.

Messrs Robt. Keyser, Elisha Karnes and Miss Ella Williams, of Healing Springs, Virginia, are visiting friends near here.

Mrs. E. S. Shue wife of 'Trout' Shue, died very suddenly at her home near here, on last Monday morning the 11th. We haven't been able to learn the particulars of her death. "JENKINS."

Green Bank.

Coldest for years the 8th and 9th inst. with a light snow and a very high wind, a man could stand to be out but a short time, and the mail froze out on Friday from Travelers' Repose and only got to this place.

Mr. B. M. Beard, of Academy, was in our burg one day last week.

Mr. Geo. Baxter, of Edray, was in this neighborhood last week surveying land for Mr. S. B. Hannah and others.

Mr. B. M. Yeager, of Huntersville, was surveying for J. W. Riley, J. T. Sutton and others last week.

Mr. J. H. Ralston, our popular blacksmith, made a flying trip to Virginia last week.

Mr. Frank McElwee, of Beverly, is visiting friends and relatives in Pocahontas at this time. He is in our village, but I won't tell on him.

THE MAIL BOY'S HORSE

The mailboy from Huttonsville to Travelers' Repose got in a snow drift, his horse fell and he could not get him out, he went to Cheat Camp and got help, but when they got back the horse's legs were frozen and could not stand and soon died frozen in the drift where the snow may lie until July the 4th, 1895.

Letter From the West.

BRIMFIELD IND.

January 28th, 1895.

Dear Editor:—As my time has about expired for my dear old friend, the POCAHONTAS TIMES, I enclose another year's subscription, wishing it a successful and prosperous year. It is always welcome to its far western friends, as it gives us the news of our old home circle of friends and relatives. We receive it on Mondays and it lasts all week.

Stocks wintering well. Lambs bring a good price. Some lots have sold from \$5 to \$5 10 per hundred. They averaged 9 lbs. A great many lambs are fed in this country. Hogs are worth from \$4 to \$4 1/2 gross; corn only 35c to 40c per bushel; wheat 48c; oats 30c. A great many farmers are feeding wheat to stock, as they think they can make more out of it by feeding it.

We have had a pleasant winter, with one week of good sleighing. The jingle of the sleigh bells was heard day and night while the snow lasted. We always fear our eastern storms. The wind got in the east last Thursday, blew up a little storm; and drove the thermometer down to 4° below zero on two nights, standing at about 10° above during the day. Before that we had only one cold night which was 8° below zero.

Mr. Lindsay has his home nicely furnished ready for house keeping. He thinks the time is long to see his better half, who is detained in her mountain home by the storm.

Miss Allie Cloonan, formerly of Pocahontas county, but who has spent the last two years in Missouri, is with us. She expects to spend 1895 in Indiana. She has a nice pleasant place to work, and we gladly welcome her.

Jake McClure is prospering finely with a good looking Hoosier wife and two little children. All are happy. I received a letter from Harry McLaughlin, who has a happy home in Missouri, and is making money. With kindest regard to all my friends, I am as ever yours.

JAKE MCLAUGHLIN.

Married in the Storm.

Last Thursday, February 7th, on Dry Branch in this county, Mr. Granville Brady and Miss Emma Lindsay were united in the holy bonds of matrimony by Rev. Benj. Wilfong. The wind made it almost impossible to remain any length of time out of doors, as it was moving houses from their foundations that day, and blowing snow which blinded the eyes of the traveler. A number of guests, however, reached the home of the bride's father, and a handsome dinner was served. The next day by an effort the home of the bridegroom was reached, where the event was celebrated in a befitting style.

The Raven Rocks.

The Raven Rocks, on Wm. M. McAllister's farm, on Elk, is a great curiosity. Recent clearing has removed the obstruction that hitherto obscured the view from the turnpike, and they can now be seen from the road.

It is a very imposing sight. From a distance it appears to be a vast over hanging cliff, about seventy-five feet high on a high point. When visited the high cliff is found to be a detached portion of the cliffs, being separated from the rest of the mountain by a chasm of about three feet in width, which extends clear across its breadth, and is as deep as the cliff is high. It is said that in hacking recently, the workmen were afraid to cross this fissure, and for that reason did not deaden a few pine trees that grow on this top. As will be seen by this meager description, the rock is an immense body of stone detached with a base much smaller than the top.

When standing on the top, the tourist seems to be overhanging the very bottom of the deep valley below, the side of the mountain being very precipitous, and the rock shelving over so much. The place has been the home of wild-cats, which have full and undisputed possession of the caves and holes in the rock. Mr. Jas. Gibson, Jr., of Elk, some years ago was taken by surprise by a wild-cat here. His dogs were baying a wild-cat in one hole. Presently a cat came out of another hole beside the hunter, and jumped on the side of a tree. The unexpected appearance of the cat rattled the hunter to that extent that he forgot he had a gun, and the cat ran away unhurt.

Jim Trotter's Famous Letter.

The recent cold snap and snow blockade in the mountains, which froze animals and at places intercepted travel, reminds a correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch of a famous letter from an Virginia mail contractor, written in 1850, which is said to have been framed by the authorities and hung in a conspicuous place in one of the offices of the Postoffice Department.

At that time, perhaps, one of the longest routes in the South was from Staunton to Parkersburg, W. Va., over the Staunton and Parkersburg turnpike, a distance of 252 miles, and James Trotter was the contractor, driving the old-fashioned stage coach, with its four horses, and having sufficient relays, which enabled him to make two trips a week. The tremendous snow drifts on Cheat Mountain in 1850 will never be forgotten. The tops of trees 75 and 80 feet tall were just visible in some of the deep hollows, and even on the adjacent farm lands live stock passed over fences from field to field, eating the tops off of fruit trees, down to the level of the snow crust.

The mail service on Trotter's line was of course, at a standstill—a fact which was duly reported, but, the authorities, failing to realize the extent of the blockade, continued to annoy him about his failure to cross the mountain. Finally, we are told that, in a fit of passion, and with the hope of putting a stop to the goadings which were so galling to him, he wrote the following letter, which as already stated, is on record, neatly framed, in the department at Washington:

"If you were to knock out the gable-end of h—l and turn it loose on Cheat Mountain, it wouldn't generate steam enough in six months to open up the snow-drifts."

Hon. Wm. L. Wilson.

Five years ago the progressive debating society of Swago, elected Hon. Wm. L. Wilson an honorary member of their society. He replied by the following letter of thanks, taken from the old file in this office:

CHARLESTON, W. VA., Nov. 25th 1889.—Messrs N. C. McNeil Pres., and G. H. Overholt Cor. Secretary: I have received yours of Nov. 19th, informing me that I have been elected an honorary member of the Copernican Literary Society of W. Va. Please accept for your Society my acknowledgments of their flattering remembrance and assure them of my hearty good wishes for the Society's prosperity and usefulness. Very truly yours, WM. L. WILSON.

When Congress Adjourns.

That'll be joy in this country when Congress adjourns—
When Congress adjourns, Adjourns!
That lane is the longest that never makes turns—
That never makes turns, Makes turns!

That'll be joy on the hilltop and joy on the plain,
An' joy in the sunshine, an' joy in the rain;
So keep up your courage, an' wait fer the train,
When Congress adjourns, Adjourns!

That'll be joy in this country when Congress adjourns—
When Congress adjourns, Adjourns!
We'll settle the bill fer the gas that it burns—
Fer the gas that it burns, It burns!

That'll be joy in the country an' joy in the town,
An' joy will go skeetin' an' flyin' all round;
Three cheers an' a tiger from Billville to Brown—
When Congress adjourns, Adjourns!

—Atlanta Constitution.

"RABBI, who is happier, the man who owns a million dollars or he who has seven daughters?"
"The one with many daughters."
"Why so?"
"He who has a million dollars wishes for more—the man who has seven daughters does not."

Special Offer.

We have made arrangements with the *Confederate Veteran* published at Nashville, Tenn., whereby we can furnish the POCAHONTAS TIMES and the *Veteran* at the exceedingly low rate of \$1.65 for both papers. Every old soldier and every one else in the county should take advantage of this offer to secure this handsomely illustrated magazine at so low a price. The *Veteran* has an immense circulation, and is the official organ of 500 camps.